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NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

Top-Seeded Cedarville University Cruises over Northwestern College

November 3, St. Paul, Minn. – Top-seeded and favorite Cedarville University looked sharp in their opening match of the 2005 National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) volleyball national championship tournament, rolling over Northwestern College in three games. The Yellow Jackets owned the upper-hand in game scores of 30-10, 30-19, and 30-24. Cedarville University extended their winning streak to 17 consecutive matches, racking up a 36-1 overall record on the year. Northwestern College, who is hosting the three-day event slipped to 19-15 with the loss.

Cedarville featured three players reaching double-figures for kills, including junior Julia Bradley (Valencia, Calif./Saugus HS), who owned a team-high 12 kills. Senior Erica Paugh (South Charleston, Ohio/Southeastern HS) and sophomore Sarah Zeltman (Orrville, Ohio/Kidron Central Christian HS) trailed close behind with 11 and 10 kills respectively. As a team, the Yellow Jackets boasted a phenomenal .618 team attack percentage with 48 kills and just 5 errors in 89 attack attempts. The main distributor to the Cedarville hitters was senior setter Kelsey Jones (Cedarville, Ohio/Cedarville HS), tallying 41 assists in just 3 games.

The Yellow Jackets were outstanding at the net, producing 16 total team blocks, including 8 solo stops. Julia Bradley was credited with 5 solo blocks and 6 assisted blocks in the match.

Northwestern College received an offensive boost from freshman outside hitter Kathryne Engel (Wayzata, Minn./West Lutheran HS), who put down 17 kills, also adding 3 digs and 2 blocks. Senior outside hitter Lindsey Sir (Prinsburg, Minn./Central Minnesota Christian HS) tallied 9 kills and 9 digs, while junior setter Sarah Zosel (Elk River, Minn.) averaged 11.7 assists per game, totaling 35 in the match.

Cedarville University will play again on Thursday night at 8 p.m., clashing with Trinity International University. Northwestern College continues tournament action also on Thursday at 6 p.m., going head-to-head with Southwestern Assemblies of God University.

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